

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY

As Amended in Convention
at Pittsburgh, May 1, 1926



PRICE FIVE CENTS

ISSUED BY

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P R E A M B L E

The Socialist Party is the political expression of the interests of the working class in the United States and part of the International working class movement.

The economic basis of present-day society is the private ownership and control of the socially necessary means of wealth production, and the exploitation of the workers who operate these means of production for the profit of those who own them.

The interests of these two classes are diametrically opposed. It is to the interest of the capitalist class to maintain the present system and to obtain for itself the largest possible share of the product of labor. It is to the interest of the working class to get the largest possible share of its own product, and to put an end to this system.

As these opposing classes become conscious of these facts, each strives to advance its interests as against the other. It is this active conflict of interests which we describe as the class struggle.

The capitalist class, by controlling the dominant political parties, controls the powers of the state and uses them to secure and entrench its position. Without such control of the state its position of economic power would be untenable. The workers must therefore wrest control of the government from the hands of the economic masters and use

its powers in the upbuilding of the new social order, the Cooperative Commonwealth.

The Socialist Party organizes the working class for independent action on the political field, not merely for the temporary betterment of its conditions, but also and above all with the revolutionary aim of putting an end to exploitation and class rule. Such political action is absolutely necessary to the emancipation of the working class, and to the achievement of true freedom for all.

To accomplish this aim it is also necessary that the working class be thoroughly organized on the economic field, and the Socialist Party pledges its uttermost aid in promoting such industrial organization and in waging the industrial struggle for emancipation.

The fundamental aim of the Socialist Party is to bring about the social ownership and democratic control of all socially useable means of production—to eliminate profit, rent and interest, and thus make it impossible for any to share in the product without sharing the burden of labor—a society wherein opportunities shall be equal and the interest of one shall be the interest of all.

As subordinate and contributory to this fundamental aim, the Socialist Party supports every measure which betters the conditions of the working class, and which increases the fighting power of that class for its own emancipation.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

Name

Sec. 1. The name of this organization shall be the Socialist Party, except in such states where a different name has or may become a legal requirement.

ARTICLE II.

Membership

Sec. 1. (a) Every person, resident of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years and upward, without discrimination as to sex, race, color or creed, who is not affiliated with any other political organization whose principles and policies are inconsistent with those of the Socialist Party and who subscribes to the principles of the Socialist Party, shall be eligible to membership.

(b) Political action within the meaning of this constitution is participation in elections for public offices, and in practical legislative and administrative work along the lines of the Socialist Party platform, to gain control of the powers of government to the end that the capitalist system be abolished and the Co-operative Commonwealth established in its place.

Sec. 2. No person holding an elective public office through any organization other than the Socialist Party shall be eligible to membership in the Socialist Party without the con-

sent of the state organization; nor shall any party member accept or hold any appointive public office, honorary or remunerative (civil service positions excepted), without the consent of the state organization.

Sec. 3. A member who desires to transfer his membership from one state to another state may do so upon presentation of his card showing him to be in good standing, together with a transfer card signed by the secretary of the local from which he transfers.

Sec. 4. No member of the party in any state or territory shall, under any pretext, interfere with the regular or organized movement of the party in any other state.

Sec. 5. All persons joining the Socialist Party shall sign the following pledge:

Application for Membership in the Socialist Party

"I, the undersigned, recognizing the class struggle between the capitalist class and the working class, and the necessity of the working class organizing itself into a political party for the purpose of obtaining collective ownership and democratic administration and operation of the collectively used and socially necessary means of wealth production and distribution, hereby apply for membership in the Socialist Party and enclose \$——— for dues. In all my political actions while a member of the party, I agree to be guided by the constitution and platform of the party. (Upon

acceptance of my application for membership I agree to apply for membership in a union of my trade or occupation.) Non-citizens agree also, upon acceptance of membership, to apply for citizenship within three months thereafter."

ARTICLE III.

Management

Sec. 1. (a) The affairs of the Socialist Party shall be administered by the National Executive Committee, national officials, National Conventions, and the general vote of the party.

(b) The National Executive Committee shall be composed of seven members, elected by the National Convention; not more than two shall be from one state. The committee shall take office immediately following its election and shall hold office until the next regular convention, and until their successors shall have been elected.

(c) The National Executive Committee shall be elected by secret ballot.

(d) The convention shall first elect seven members who shall constitute the National Executive Committee. It shall also elect, by secret ballot, seven additional members as alternates to the National Executive Committee.

(e) A majority of all the votes cast at the convention shall be required to elect the members of the Executive Committee and the alternates.

(f) In case of a vacancy on the Executive Committee it shall be filled by one of the al-

ternates in the order of the vote they received.

Sec. 2. (a) Members of the National Executive Committee may be recalled by a referendum of the members of the party.

(b) A motion for the recall of any or all members of the National Executive Committee may be initiated by any one local, and shall require the seconds of locals with a membership of at least ten per cent of the total membership of the party, located in at least five different states. Said motion may be accompanied by a statement of not more than 500 words.

(c). A motion to recall any or all members of the National Executive Committee shall be open for seconds for not more than 90 days, and shall be published in the party bulletin.

(d) If sufficient seconds are procured before the expiration of 90 days, the National Secretary shall send the referendum out immediately.

(e) Motions for the recall of a member or members of the National Executive Committee failing to receive sufficient seconds during the time allowed for seconds shall be dropped and not renewed during the period of the service of such member or members.

(f) In submitting ballots to a vote on the recall of any or all members of the National Executive Committee, the local initiating the motion, and the member or members to be recalled, shall have the right to submit a

statement giving the reasons for the recall, or in defense, as the case may be, such statement not to exceed 1,000 words. These statements shall be submitted with the ballots for the vote.

(g) If more than one member of the National Executive Committee is to be recalled each member shall have the right to submit a statement of not more than 800 words, such statement to be submitted with the ballot for the vote.

(h) The time for voting on a referendum for the recall of members of the National Executive Committee shall be 60 days from the time the ballots are sent out from the National Office, and all state, local or branch organizations shall retain the individual ballots for at least six months and send them either to the state or National Office when demanded.

(i) Only members in good standing who have been in the party at least six months may vote on the recall of members of the National Executive Committee.

(j) Referendum for the recall of members of the National Executive Committee shall not be submitted if the National Convention is to meet prior to or within 60 days of the closing of the vote for the recall.

Sec. 8. Three years of consecutive membership in the party shall be necessary to qualify for membership on the National Executive Committee or as an executive official.

ARTICLE IV.

Duties of the N. E. C.

Sec. 1. The duties and powers of the National Executive Committee shall be:

(a) To represent the party in all National and International affairs.

(b) To call National Conventions decided upon by referendum of the Party.

(c) To make reports of the membership and condition of the party organization to National Conventions, with recommendations thereon.

(d) To supervise and strengthen the organization, promote propaganda and establish regular organization and lecture circuits.

(e) To formulate the rules and the order of business of National Conventions of the party not otherwise provided for by the constitution, subject to amendment and adoption by national conventions.

(f) To receive dues and reports from state organizations.

(g) To conduct national referendums in the manner provided by the constitution.

(h) To supervise the work and transact the current business of the National Office.

(i) To publish the minutes of its meetings in the official organ.

(j) To publish in the official organ a detailed statement of all moneys expended for printing leaflets and books, with titles and authors of same.

(k) To maintain in connection with the National Office such bureaus and departments as may be found necessary.

(l) To supervise the activity of elected legislative representatives and party-owned papers.

Sec. 2. Members of the National Executive Committee shall be eligible to serve as organizers. Any member may be appointed lecturer in courses arranged by the National Office and given temporary assignment for special party work.

Sec. 3. The Committee shall formulate its own rules of procedure, not inconsistent with the provisions of the constitution.

Sec. 4. Meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be held at least once every three months, except by unanimous consent.

Sec. 5. The National Executive Committee shall be the custodian of all national party property.

Sec. 6. The location of National Headquarters shall be determined by the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 7. (a) No funds of the National Organization shall be appropriated by the Executive Committee for any purpose not directly connected with the propaganda of Socialism and the struggles of labor. Not more than \$100 shall be appropriated to any one organization other than a sub-division of the party; and no application for financial assistance coming from locals or other sub-divisions of state or-

ganizations shall be entertained without the endorsement of the state organization.

(b) The committee shall have no power to appropriate funds, except for the current expenses of the National Office, unless the party has sufficient funds on hand to meet all outstanding obligations, or unless the regular income will in due course cover such appropriations before the end of the current year. The committee shall make no appropriations, directly or indirectly, for the support of any paper or periodical not owned by the National Office.

Sec. 8. The National Office mailing lists of locals and branches and of subscribers shall not be given to any one outside the membership, nor shall they be given to members for private purposes. Appropriate portions of same may be given to members and party officials for purposes of organization, propaganda and renewals of subscriptions.

Sec. 9. The national membership dues as provided in the constitution shall be \$1.50 per year, thirty-six cents of which is for expenses of the national convention, and to be so applied by the Executive Secretary.

ARTICLE V.

Executive Secretary

Sec. 1. An Executive Secretary shall be employed by the National Executive Committee. He or she may be removed at any time by the committee or by referendum vote

of the membership. He or she shall give bonds in the amount fixed by the committee. His or her compensation shall be fixed by the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The Executive Secretary shall have charge of all affairs of the National Office, including the employment of necessary help, subject to the direction of the National Executive Committee. He or she shall supervise the accounts of the National Office and its departments.

Sec. 3. The Executive Secretary shall send out to all branches, locals, language federations, state and district organizations a bi-monthly bulletin containing financial and other important reports and announcements.

ARTICLE VI.

Conventions.

Sec. 1. There shall be a National Convention of the Socialist Party in all even numbered years. A National Convention may also be called by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Committee or by referendum vote of the party.

Sec. 2. The date and place of the National Convention shall be fixed by the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. The representation at each National Convention other than as provided for in Section 4, shall be the state secretary of each state, one delegate from each organized state having a membership of 1,000 or less, and

one additional delegate for every additional thousand members, or major fraction thereof, based upon the sale of dues stamps during the year preceding the National Convention.

Sec. 4. In presidential years the National Convention shall be composed of 200 delegates, to be apportioned among the states in the following manner:

One from each state and the remainder in proportion to the average national dues paid by the organization of such states during the preceding year.

Delegates to the National Convention shall be resident members of the state from which they present credentials, and they shall have been party members for at least three years.

Sec. 5. Railroad fare, including tourist sleeping car fare to and from conventions, and a per diem of five dollars to cover expenses, shall be paid to delegates from the National treasury from a special convention fund created by setting aside three cents for each dues stamp sold by the National Office.

Sec. 6. Delegates to the national convention shall be elected by referendum vote of the members.

Sec. 7. (a) The election of delegates to the national convention shall, wherever possible, be completed not later than thirty days preceding the convention, and state secretaries shall furnish the Executive Secretary with a list of accredited delegates immediately after their election.

(b) At the time and place set for the opening of the national convention, the Executive Secretary shall call the convention to order, and call the roll of uncontested delegates, who shall permanently organize the convention.

Sec. 8. The national convention shall have the power to nominate candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, to elect a National Chairman of the party, to adopt a national platform, and to transact such other business as may be necessary. Vacancies on the national ticket and in the office of National Chairman shall be filled by the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 9. (a) All national platforms, amendments of platforms or of the constitution, and resolutions adopted by the national convention shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the membership:

(1) Upon request of the membership though the initiative provision of the constitution; or

(2) Upon the request of at least one-fourth of the delegates voting on such measure, such request to be made before adjournment of the convention.

(b) One-fourth of such delegates shall be entitled to have alternative paragraphs submitted at the same time. Such paragraphs, signed by one-fourth of such delegates shall be filed with the Executive Secretary not later

than one day after adjournment of the convention.

Sec. 10. Any matter referred to the membership by the convention shall be effective only when approved by referendum vote of such membership.

Platforms and resolutions shall take effect upon adoption. Amendments to the constitution shall take effect sixty days after adoption.

Sec. 11. The National Executive Committee shall formulate the agenda for the party convention. The Committee shall issue a call for resolutions and suggestions four months before the convention, allowing one month for filing of same with the Committee. After preparing a preliminary agenda based upon the material received at the expiration of the allotted time, the Committee shall send it to the sub-divisions of the party for amendment and revision, allowing one month for the same. Upon receipt of revisions, the Committee shall prepare a final draft of the agenda which shall be sent to the party sub-divisions and submitted to the convention.

Sec. 12. The convention shall elect a National Chairman, who shall serve without salary, and whose powers and duties shall be as defined by law. He shall be a member ex-officio of the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII.

International Secretary and Delegates

Sec. 1. The National Convention shall elect an International Secretary who shall serve until the following convention or until his successor is elected.

Sec. 2. The National Executive Committee may elect delegates to International Conferences.

Sec. 3. The International Secretary and International Delegates shall have been members of the party at least three years at the time of their election. The expense of delegates and a per diem equal to that fixed for delegates to the National Convention shall be paid from the National treasury.

ARTICLE VIII.

Representatives in Congress

Sec. 1. Members of Congress elected on the ticket of the Socialist Party shall submit reports of their actions in Congress to the National Conventions.

Sec. 2. In the support of measures proposed by the Party, they shall carry out any instructions which may be given by National Conventions, the National Executive Committee or by a general referendum of the membership.

Sec. 3. In all legislative bodies such as Congress, State Legislatures, Boards of Supervisors or Town Councils, Socialist Party members

shall organize into a group separate and apart from all other parties. They shall elect a chairman and in support of all measures definitely declared for in the platforms of the party, they shall vote as a unit.

ARTICLE IX.

State Organizations

Sec. 1. The formation of state organizations, and the revival of state organizations which may have lapsed, shall be under the direction of the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. No state shall be organized unless it has at least ten locals, or an aggregate membership of not less than two hundred, but this provision shall not affect the rights of states organized prior to the adoption of this constitution. When the membership of any state averages less than one hundred and fifty per month for any six consecutive months the National Executive Committee may revoke the charter of the state.

Sec. 3. The platform of the Socialist Party shall be the supreme declaration of the party, and all state and municipal platforms shall conform thereto. No state or local organization shall fuse, combine or compromise with the Democratic, Republican or any other political party whose policies and platform are inconsistent with those of the Socialist Party, nor endorse candidates nominated by such parties or political organizations.

Sec. 4. State organizations of the party may

co-operate with organizations of labor, working farmers, and progressive groups within their state in independent political action, but such co-operation must in all cases be on the following conditions:

(a) The term "independent political action" as herein employed shall be understood to mean the nomination and election of candidates by a party of workers, farmers, and progressive groups organized in express opposition to political parties supporting capitalism and excluding participation in the primaries of such parties as well as voting for their candidates in public elections.

(b) That in any form of political co-operation the independence and integrity of organization and official political standing of the Socialist Party shall be fully preserved.

(c) That the political programs and platforms adopted for such joint political action shall not be inconsistent with the platform and principles of the Socialist Party.

(d) That all co-operation of state organizations shall be subject to approval by the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 5. No member of the Socialist Party shall participate in the primaries of the Democratic, Republican or other party whose policies and platform are inconsistent with those of the Socialist Party, nor vote for or advocate voting for any candidate other than those nominated, endorsed or recommended by the Socialist Party.

Sec. 6. In states in which there is one central organization affiliated with the party, the state organization shall have sole jurisdiction of the members residing within their respective territories, and sole control of all matters pertaining to the propaganda, organization and financial affairs within such states; provided such propaganda is in harmony with the constitution of the party; and provided also that the National Office may route organizers and lecturers direct through any state as part of a regular organization and lecture circuit if the co-operation of the state organization cannot be secured. The activity of state organizations shall be confined to their respective states, and the National Executive Committee, its sub-committees and officers shall have no right to interfere in such matters without the consent of such state organizations.

Sec. 7. (a) State secretaries shall make monthly reports to the National Executive Secretary concerning their membership, financial condition and the general standing of the state party. Such reports shall be made on blanks furnished by the National Office and shall be in the National Office no later than the tenth of the following month.

(b) During the months of January and July of each year, or at any other time required by the National Executive Committee or the constitution, state secretaries shall furnish the Executive Secretary with a list of all

locals affiliated with their respective state organizations, together with the number of members in good standing, and the name and address of the corresponding secretary of each local. Refusal, failure or neglect to comply with this section shall subject a state organization to suspension from the Socialist Party and deprive such state of participation in the affairs of the Party, and of the right to representation in conventions and congresses of the party.

(c) All local and branch secretaries shall be requested to make monthly reports to their respective state and district secretaries, on forms provided for that purpose.

Dues

Sec. 8. Until such time as the national membership shall total 25,000 the state and National dues paid by members of the Socialist Party shall be twenty-five cents per month, of which 12½ cents shall be paid to the National organization and 12½ cents to the state organization; when the membership reaches 25,000 or more the dues shall be 20 cents per month, of which the state and the National organization shall each receive 10 cents; when the membership reaches 50,000 or more the dues shall be 15 cents per month, of which the state and the National organizations shall each receive 7½ cents; provided that local and branch organizations may charge such local and branch dues in addition

to the state and National dues as may be decided upon by such local and branch organizations; and provided further that while state dues shall in no case be less than as provided in this section, nothing in this section shall prohibit state organizations from increasing state dues by action of the membership of such states.

(a) In states where no state organization exists locals and branches shall pay state dues as provided above direct to the National organization.

(b) The dues of members-at-large in unorganized states shall be 50 cents per month. Application for membership-at-large shall be accompanied by not less than three months dues.

(c) Only dues stamps issued by the National Executive Committee shall be affixed to members' dues cards as valid receipts for the payment of dues.

Sec. 9. The National Office shall also issue to state secretaries exempt stamps, both regular and special, free of charge, to be used by party members temporarily unable to pay dues on account of unemployment caused by sickness, strikes, lockouts or other conditions not within their control.

(a) Any member desiring to use exempt stamps shall make application therefor to the financial secretary of his local organization, and such application shall be passed upon by such organization. Exempt stamps shall be

issued only to members in good standing who have paid dues for at least three months, and who are by the same action exempt from the payment of dues to the state and national organizations. The number of exempt stamps shall not exceed 10 per cent of the total number of stamps obtained by the state organization. The acceptance of exempt stamps shall in no way disqualify a member from any rights and privileges of party membership.

(b) The National Office shall also issue a double perforated stamp to state secretaries to be sold at the same rate as regular dues stamps.

One half of such stamp shall be affixed to the membership card of the husband and the other half to that of the wife. Husband and wife desiring to use such stamps shall make application to the financial secretary of the local and such application shall be passed upon by such organization.

Sec. 10. All state organizations shall provide in their constitutions for the initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

Sec. 11. When a controversy exists in a state organization, the Executive Secretary shall continue to sell dues stamps to the secretary recognized by him before such controversy is officially brought before him, until a state referendum has decided otherwise. He shall take no action except on petition of ten per cent of the members (and not less than

three locals in different localities) appearing on the last official list filed with him by the state secretary at least three months prior to the controversy, and then only if there is doubt as to who is state secretary. In such case he shall hold a referendum of those locals reported on the last official list to determine who is state secretary. The signed individual ballots in such referendum shall be sent to the Executive Secretary.

Sec. 12 (a). Locals in adjoining unorganized states may, with the consent of the National Executive Committee, organize a district organization, or the N. E. C. may, where advisable, organize District Organizations of locals in adjoining unorganized states. Such District Organizations shall enjoy the same rights and privileges as state organizations and shall be considered as state organizations under this constitution.

(b). District Organizations may dissolve with the consent of the National Executive Committee, or may be dissolved by the N. E. C. whenever they deem it advisable.

ARTICLE X.

Foreign Speaking Organizations

Sec. 1. Five branches of the Socialist Party conducting their business in any other language than English shall have the right to form a National Federation under the supervision of the Executive Secretary and the Executive Committee.

Section 2. (a) National Language Federations shall have the right to elect an officer known as Translator-Secretary, who shall be conversant with the language of his federation as well as the English language, and whose duty it shall be to serve as a medium of communication between his federation and the National Organization of the Party.

(b) The headquarters of the Language Federations shall be the National Office of the Socialist Party.

Sec. 3. When a National Language Federation shall have at least 1,000 members, its Translator-Secretary shall be entitled to necessary office room in the National Headquarters, and to such salary from the National Office as may be decided upon by the National Executive Committee. Such Translator-Secretary shall have been a member of the party at least three consecutive years, except his federation shall not have been affiliated with the party that length of time. When a Language Federation is reduced to less than 1,000 members, the rights of that Federation to office room and salary shall be suspended at the discretion of the National Executive Committee.

Sec. 4. (a) Language Federations shall pay to the National Office a monthly per capita of 7½ cents. They shall also pay through the Translator-Secretary to the regular state and county or city organization a monthly per capita of 7½ cents. They shall secure dues

stamps from the National Office only upon payment of National, state and local dues, said state and local dues to be remitted to the respective state organizations by the National Office.

(b) The National Executive Committee shall have power to audit the accounts of Language Federations and furnish reports to the state organizations.

Sec. 5. (a) Branches of Language Federations shall be an integral part of county and state organizations and shall be governed by the constitution and by-laws of state and local organizations.

Such Branches shall send monthly reports to their local and state organizations, directly or thru the Translator-Secretary, giving the number of dues stamps sold during the preceding month, the list of members both in good standing and suspended.

Language branches, not affiliated with a federation of their respective language, shall work in harmony with such federation, confining their work within the territorial jurisdiction of such branches. In no case, however, shall such branches permit their members to carry on work against the interest of the federation or of the party. Federations shall not be permitted to organize additional branches within the territorial jurisdiction of branches not affiliated with them except with the consent of the state organization.

The charter of any language branch not

affiliated with a federation that condones or engages in activities aiming at the destruction of a federation, shall be revoked by the state organization in accordance with the method of procedure provided by the constitution of the state organization. When the charter of such branch is revoked, such of its members who agree to refrain from similar objectionable work in the future, shall be organized into a new branch. But no member of a branch the charter of which has been revoked shall be denied admission to the new branch, if a statement is signed obligating himself to work in harmony with the provisions of this section.

(b) A Language Federation, if its constitution so provides, may, with the approval of the National Executive Committee, exclude for cause any of the branches or locals affiliated with it. Such excluded locals and branches shall lose only the rights and privileges dependent upon affiliation with the federation. They shall continue to be an integral part of the county and state organizations, until such time as their exclusion has been approved by such county and state organizations.

(c) Members of a federation cannot be suspended or expelled from the party by the federation or by any of its sub-divisions, the power to suspend or expel members from the party being vested exclusively in county and state organizations. An accused member shall be accorded a fair trial in the manner

provided by the county and state constitutions or local by-laws.

Sec. 6. All propaganda work of Language Federations shall be carried on under the supervision of their executive officers according to the by-laws of the federations. Such by-laws shall be in conformity with the constitution of the Socialist Party.

Sec. 7. Each Translator-Secretary shall submit a monthly report of the dues stamps sold during that period to the National and state offices, and to all local and county offices in cities and counties where branches of the federation exist. He shall also make a monthly report to the Executive Secretary, showing the financial condition of the federation, the kind of literature published and the amount sold during the month, and the nature and extent of propaganda and organization work carried on.

Sec. 8. The National Party shall not recognize more than one federation of the same language.

(a) Each National Federation shall be entitled to elect one fraternal delegate to the National Conventions of the party, such delegate to have a voice but no vote. He shall receive railroad fare and per diem from the party the same as regular delegates.

ARTICLE XI.

Socialist Parties in Insular Possessions

Sec. 1. Socialist Party organizations in the

insular possessions of the United States desiring to affiliate with the Socialist Party of the United States may be admitted as an integral part of the Socialist Party by subscribing to the constitution and platform of the Party and in all their activities conforming to the principles of the party.

Sec. 2. They shall pay a per capita tax to the party equal to one cent per month for each member in good standing.

Sec. 3. They shall be entitled to one delegate each to the National Conventions of the party, but the expense of such delegates to be paid by the parties in the respective colonies or insular possessions.

ARTICLE XII.

Young People's Socialist League

Sec. 1. The work among the young, between the ages of 14 and 25, in the national field shall be under the control and direction of the National Executive Committee of the Party.

Sec. 2. The organization work within the states shall be conducted by the various divisions of the Young People's Socialist League under the supervision of the respective state organizations of the party.

Sec. 3. The National Executive Committee shall issue annually a voluntary assessment stamp which shall be sold for twenty-five cents. The money received from the sale of these stamps shall be used for the issuance

of a Y. P. S. L. bulletin or for other purposes designed to build up the League.

Sec. 4. In states having recognized state organizations of the Y. P. S. L., twenty cents from each assessment stamp sold within such states shall be paid to such state organizations.

Sec. 5. The several state secretaries of the Y. P. S. L. shall be chosen by the League and approved by the Socialist Party.

Sec. 6. A member of the Y. P. S. L., upward of 21 years of age, who has been a member of the League for one year or more, shall become a member of the Socialist Party. No applicant for membership in the Y. P. S. L. between the age of twenty-one and twenty-five shall be admitted unless a member of the Socialist Party.

Sec. 7. Members of the Y. P. S. L. who are also members of the Socialist Party shall be exempt from the payment of state and National party dues. The National Executive Committee shall issue a special dues stamp which shall be identical with the regular dues stamp, except that there shall be printed thereon the words "Dual Membership—Y. P. S. L."

Such stamps shall be furnished to state and local organizations free of charge and shall be sold by the local to branches for an amount equal to the local dues. Branch secretaries shall sell such stamps to their members only upon presentation of a paid up membership card in the Y. P. S. L., for an amount equal to the combined dues of the branch and local.

Sec. 8. The branches of the Y. P. S. L. shall be under the jurisdiction of the city, county, and state organizations of the Socialist Party, and shall in all cases work in harmony with the constitution and platform of the city, county, and state organizations of the party.

Sec. 9. Every state, city and county organization of the party shall elect at least one member to represent the Socialist Party in the respective state, city and county organizations of the Y. P. S. L. Such party representative shall have a voice and vote in all affairs concerning the Y. P. S. L.

Sec. 10. Every National, state, city and county organization of the Y. P. S. L. shall elect at least one member to represent the Y. P. S. L. in the respective National, state, city and county organizations of the Socialist Party. Such representative shall have a voice in all matters, and a vote only in affairs concerning the Y. P. S. L.

Sec. 11. The Y. P. S. L. shall pay monthly to the National Office a sum equal to ten cents for each member in good standing within their respective states, for which they shall receive dues stamps or other valid receipt for dues. Only dues stamps issued by the National Office shall be considered as a valid receipt for dues.

Sec. 12. The state secretaries of the Y. P. S. L. shall issue a quarterly report to the National Secretary of the Y. P. S. L. concerning the membership, financial condition and gen-

eral standing of the Circles in their respective states, said reports to be published in the party or Y. P. S. L. bulletin.

Sec. 13. The Y. P. S. L. shall be entitled to one delegate, having a voice but no vote, to the National Convention of the Socialist Party. Said delegate shall receive railroad fare and per diem from the party the same as regular delegates.

Sec. 14. Fraternal delegates of the Y. P. S. L. shall be elected by the regular National Convention of the Young People's Socialist League or by referendum vote of the membership.

ARTICLE XIII.

General Provisions

Sec. 1. Motions or resolutions to be voted upon by the entire membership of the party shall be submitted seriatim by the Executive Secretary to the referendum vote of the membership upon the request of locals as follows:

(a) On amendments to constitution, or on a call for a national convention, upon request of locals representing at least eight per cent of the membership.

(b) On recall of any or all members of the National Executive Committee, upon request of locals representing at least ten per cent of the membership, located in at least five different states.

(c) On all other actions, upon request of

locals representing at least five per cent of the membership.

(d) The term "local" as herein used shall mean a local or branch of a local, but not a body composed of delegates from branches or locals. The term "membership" shall mean the entire membership on the basis of dues paid in the preceding year.

Sec. 2. Each motion and resolution shall be printed in the official bulletin and remain open ninety days from the date of first publication, and, if it has not then received the requisite number of seconds, it shall be abandoned. The vote on each referendum shall close sixty days after its submission.

Sec. 3. Referendum shall be submitted without preamble or comment; but comment not to exceed two hundred words both for and against any proposition may accompany the motion when printed.

Sec. 4. Only members of the party in good standing and who have been members of the Socialist Party for at least six months can vote on national referendums. Ballots for national referendums shall contain a line where members shall state their length of membership in the Socialist Party.

Sec. 5. Whenever a motion, resolution or an amendment has been regularly initiated and passed upon by the party membership, another motion that conflicts with the same shall not be considered for at least six months.

Sec. 6. No motion for a referendum on

national conventions shall be entertained by the National Executive Committee within six months preceding a convention.

Sec. 7. Delegates to International, National, state and local conventions and members of executive and other governing committees of the party in National, state and local organizations must be citizens of the United States, and must have been in continuous good standing in the party for at least three years, provided such organizations have been in existence for such time.

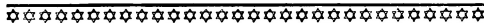




ORDER OF BUSINESS

The following Order of Business should be observed in conducting Local and Branch meetings:

1. Call to order
2. Reading of the minutes
3. Admission of new members
4. Communications and bills
5. Reports of officers
6. Reports of committees
7. Unfinished business
8. New business
9. "Good and welfare"
10. Adjournment



Socialist Party Supplies

A full line of party supplies, including emblems on buttons, cufflinks and watch fobs, minute books, financial secretaries' account books, leaflets and pamphlets, can be furnished by the National Office. Write for price list, and for catalogue of Standard Socialist publications. The American Appeal is a weekly Socialist news - and - propaganda paper, owned and published by The National Organization. Price \$1.00 per year; 50 cents for six months.

NATIONAL OFFICE, SOCIALIST PARTY

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